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15 August 1978

INTERNAL TRAINING

1. (U) CIA has acted affirmatively on the 2 March 1977 report of the House Appropriation Committee's Surveys and Investigation Staff. It should be noted that while the report made constructive recommendations on several points, it neither recommends nor implies that a substantial reduction could be made in both internal and external training without seriously impairing CIA's effectiveness. The reduction of \$1.0 million in the FY 1978 training budget was applied to external training in the belief that this action most closely corresponded with the intent of the report and the Committee and minimized the adverse impact on CIA training needs.

2. (C) In contrast, a cut of \$1.0 million in internal CIA training* in FY 1979 would be devastating as this reduction would come at a singularly critical time. The personnel reductions in the Directorate of Operations have been planned so as not only to reduce the total number of staff, but also to provide for a "flow-through" of personnel in which the Directorate takes in substantial numbers of new operations officers. The knowledge and skills needed by operations officers engaged in clandestine collection--identifying, assessing, recruiting, and communicating with agents, evasion of hostile surveillance, surveilling of foreign agent personnel, and related skills--can only be acquired in CIA's Office of Training (OTR), which trains both CIA and Department of Defense personnel. The proposed reduction would markedly constrict OTR's ability to train new operations officers in the numbers needed in FY 1979.

3. (U) In addition to the impact on operations training, the reduction would also strike at other training which CIA conducts for personnel of other agencies of the Intelligence Community. Two-thirds of the personnel trained in the CIA's Information Science Center are from the Department of Defense. These courses, as well as the program to encourage closer collaboration within the Intelligence Community through cross-training as to organization, missions, and processes, are unique to Intelligence and not otherwise available.

*Internal Training is an amalgam of centralized training conducted by the Office of Training and specialized, on-the-job type training conducted by operating components.

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SUBJECT: Internal Training

4. (U) Finally, the Agency is responding to a recommendation by members of the Senate Select Committee on Intelligence to make a substantially greater effort in training intelligence analysts. The US Government invests heavily in collection systems and in training of collection personnel, but intelligence analysts receive little training. The proposed reduction would bring to a standstill the program which has successfully commenced and which will reach fruition in FY 1979.

5. (U) In summary, given the critical need for training in key areas for CIA personnel and personnel from other parts of the Intelligence Community, a reduction of \$1.0 million in the FY 1979 internal training budget would have a significant adverse impact on CIA and the Intelligence Community.

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